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HARVEST PROSPECTS OF USSR AGRICULTURE; PLEDGES BY CENTRAL ASIAN REPUBLICS

/Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources./

USSR

In 1952, USSR kolkhozes exceeded the plan for sowing of perennial grasses for the first time since World War II; 1.4 million more hectares were sown than in 1951. Areas sown to fodder root crops, annual grasses, and ensilage crops also increased.(1)

In 1950, the gross sugar beet harvest in the USSR was 2.7 times as great as in 1945. In 1951, it again increased and exceeded 27 million tons. A further increase is provided for in the 1952 plan.(2)

USSR Crop Progress Report Dated 28 June 1952

The weather has continued to favor development of growing crops in the USSR. Spring wheat is entering the tube stage as far north as a line running through Velikiye Luki, Ivanovo, and Molotov and also in some parts of Siberia; it is ripening in some parts of Central Asia and in southern Kazakhstan. Winter grains are flowering in Belorussia, the central regions of the European USSR, and southern Urals. Potatoes have sprouted around Vologda and Kirov. Oats have reached the milky maturity stage in the extreme south. Winter barley and winter wheat are being harvested in Uzbek, Turkmen, and Azerbaydzhan SSRs. Harvesting has begun in Georgian SSR and Dagestan ASSR. Almost three fourths of the USSR grain harvest is to be harvested by MTS combines.(3)

Belorussian SSR

The area sown to spring wheat in the republic was considerably greater in 1952 than in 1951. The amount of manure and peat applied to fields on which spring crops were sown was 9.7 million tons greater in 1952 than in 1951.(4)

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On the kolkhoz grain fields of Belorussia, the stand is thick and tall and the heads are large. In the southern portion of the republic, winter rye is ripening and barley and spring wheat are entering the tube stage.

Preparation of machinery for the harvest is being completed in kolkhozes and MTS. On the average, each MTS is receiving ten new harvesting machines. Good utilization of available equipment will permit mechanized harvesting of twice as large an area as in 1951. Mechanized harvesting of industrial crops will increase considerably; mechanized flax pulling is to increase by 100,000 hectares over 1951. In each kolkhoz, a transport brigade for hauling grain to the procurement points and kolkhoz granaries is being created.(5)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plans for plowing of clean summer fallow and application of local fertilizers to the fields in kolkhozes of the republic (in the plans, units of measurement are cartloads for manure, tons for peat):

Oblast	15 June (6)			20 June (7)		
	Fallow Plowed	Fertilizers Applied		Fallow Plowed	Fertilizers Applied	
		Manure			Manure	Peat
Baranovichi	61.8	58.0		78.4	62.0	61.0
Bobruysk	58.1	62.4		65.1	63.4	45.0
Brest	73.0	57.7		55.7	58.2	40.1
Gomel'	60.3	67.3		65.4	68.3	42.1
Grodno	79.8	51.4		89.9	52.6	59.3
Minsk	43.7	56.8		56.2	58.7	52.7
Mogilev	51.4	77.3		60.3	77.8	28.5
Molodechno	40.2	58.5		55.5	60.6	44.8
Pinsk	34.2	50.9		45.4	51.3	51.7
Poles'ye	42.8	61.2		48.7	61.6	39.6
Polotsk	39.6	66.2		57.8	69.9	66.2
Vitebsk	40.4	51.7		52.2	55.7	32.4

Moldavian SSR

A large harvest is anticipated in the republic. Kolkhozes in Vulkaneshtskiy and Tarakliyskiy rayons are expecting yields of 20-25 quintals per hectare. The spiked grain area to be harvested by combine in the republic in 1952 is planned to be 1.5 times as great as in 1951. Machines are to work not less than 20 hours per day, and the harvest is to be completed in 8-9 working days.(8)

In a letter to Stalin, the agricultural workers of Moldavian SSR pledged to obtain in 1952 an average cotton yield of not less than 6 quintals per hectare from the entire area sown in the republic. Leading kolkhozes are striving for yields of 10-12 quintals per hectare.(9)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for planting of vegetables and tobacco in kolkhozes of the republic:

Okrug	15 June (10)		20 June (11)	
	Vegetables	Tobacco	Vegetables	Tobacco
Bel'tsy	83.7	86.7	84.6	98.5
Kagul'	79.3	--	90.0	--
Kishinev	83.7	85.4	85.2	98.0
Tiraspol'	100.3	101.7	100.3	109.3

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for plowing of summer fallow in kolkhozes of the republic:

Okrug	15 June (10)	20 June (11)	25 June (12)
Bel'tsy	72.3	72.9	73.1
Kagul'	77.7	78.1	78.5
Kishinev	64.0	64.3	64.6
Tiraspol'	80.3	82.5	82.7

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for repair of harvesting machinery in MTS of the republic, as of 20 June (11):

Okrug	Combines	Threshers	Reapers	Hay Mowers
Bel'tsy	80.1	48.3	31.7	66.7
Kagul'	91.1	65.0	39.9	109.0
Kishinev	84.8	69.6	81.8	55.5
Tiraspol'	83.5	49.3	57.5	100.0

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plan for harvesting of sown grasses and natural hay in kolkhozes of the republic:

Okrug	15 June (10)		25 June (12)	
	Sown Grasses	Natural Hay	Sown Grasses	Natural Hay
Bel'tsy	23.6	23.2	34.9	47.8
Kagul'	31.8	28.2	50.4	50.8
Kishinev	18.8	19.3	28.0	44.3
Tiraspol'	35.8	35.4	44.9	46.5

Georgian SSR

The grain harvest has begun in some areas of Tbilisi Oblast.(13)

In 1951, the tea leaf harvest in the republic as a whole averaged 2,322 kilograms per hectare.(14)

Azerbaydzhan SSR

The grain harvest, not in progress in the republic, is better than it has been in many years.(15)

Because combines operating in the republic grain harvest were not provided in time with adequate manpower and grain transport facilities, their average daily output is only 5-7 hectares harvested instead of 18-20 hectares, the established norm. In many kolkhozes, large harvesting losses are permitted; this is particularly true in areas where the grain has lodged.(16)

Planes which were used earlier for supplemental fertilization of winter crops and then for weed spraying in the Sovkhoz imeni Ordzhonikidze are now engaged in combating the Eurygaster intergriceps, an insect pest of the Pentatomidae family, which is found in the grain fields. Many tons of a special preparation are being sprayed on the fields by pilots Zheleznov and Khalatov; thus far, several thousand hectares of grain fields have been treated.(17)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment, as reported by the Ministry of Agriculture Azerbaydzhan SSR, of the plans for combine harvesting and plowing for winter crops by MTS of the republic, as of 20 June (17):

Administrative Unit	Combine Harvesting	Plowing for Winter Crops
Baku Oblast	6	27
Gyandzha Oblast	8	29
Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast	5	27
Nakhichevan' ASSR	--	39

RSFSR

Winter rye is in full flower in Penza Oblast. In many places, the stand is so thick that the fields do not require weeding. Kolkhoz workers have begun artificial pollination, since last year's experience showed that this practice increased yields by 1.5-2.0 quintals of grain per hectare. In 1952, 500,000 hectares of winter rye are to be pollinated artificially in kolkhozes of the oblast.(18)

Kolkhozes of Dagestan ASSR have begun harvesting winter barley: 100 combines are working in the fields. The first fields harvested yielded 15-16 quintals per hectare.(19)

In Voronezh Oblast, there is a steppe which has long borne the name Kamennaya Steppe. It was in this arid steppe that V. V. Dokuchayev established an experimental area, planted shelter belts, created artificial ponds, dug wells, sowed wheat, peas, and grasses, and carried out other practices for the purpose of transforming the region.

Having lost its meaning, the designation Kamennaya Steppe is gradually being replaced by the name Dokuchayev National Park (Dokuchayevskiy Zapovednik). The Agricultural Scientific Research Institute imeni V. V. Dokuchayev, located in the steppe, is continuing the work begun by Dokuchayev himself.

In 1951, quintal-per-hectare yields as high as the following were obtained on irrigated areas in the steppe: winter wheat, 47; spring wheat, 43; sugar beets, 916; tomatoes, 852; cabbage, 910; and carrots, 1,066.(20)

In Ryazan' Oblast, the network of MTS and meadow improvement stations was enlarged in 1952 by the organization of Kuz'minskaya, Stolpyanskaya, and Trepol'skaya MTS and Polyanskaya and Yerakhturskaya meadow improvement stations.

The task of meadow improvement stations is to convert swampy and brush-covered areas into productive natural grasslands or lands which can be sown

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to perennial grasses. In a year's time, Kistrusskaya Meadow Improvement Station in Izhevskiy Rayon grubbed stumps from an area of 500 hectares, cleared brushwood from 2,000 hectares, and drained large swampy areas.(21)

Kazakh SSR

Grain is ripening and the barley harvest has begun in Dzhambul Oblast. In the oblast, 95 percent of all grain crops are to be harvested with machines; 600 combines have been delivered to the areas of their operation. All combines are equipped with lights.(18)

The following table shows 1952 harvest average per-hectare yield pledges given by kolkhoz workers of the republic in a letter to Stalin:

Oblast	All Grains (pud)	Winter Wheat (pud)	Spring Wheat (pud)	Potatoes (quintals)	Perennial Grass Hay (quintals)
Akmolinsk			100	120	30
Aktyubinsk					25
Alma-Ata	100	120		125	45
Dzhambul	90	100		100	45
East Kazakhstan			100	120	30
Gur'yev					
Karaganda				110	25
Kokchetav			100	120	30
Kustanay			100	120	30
Kzyl-Orda	130				40
North Kazakhstan			100	130	30
Pavlodar					25
Semipalatinsk					25
South Kazakhstan	90	100		100	50
Taldy-Kurgan	100	110		110	45
West Kazakhstan					25

Kolkhozes also pledged to fulfill the grain delivery plan by 20 October, to plow 1,350,000 hectares of summer fallow, and to plow 4,100,000 hectares of winter fallow.(22)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1952 plans for hay moving and ensilage storage in kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the republic:

Oblast	Kolkhozes			Sovkhozes		
	Area Mowed	Hay Harvested	Ensilage Stored	Area Mowed	Hay Harvested	Ensilage Stored
15 June (23)						
Akmolinsk	4.9	0.6	--	4.1	0.5	--
Aktyubinsk	6.1	--	--	3.8	0.5	0.4
Alma-Ata	28.9	8.9	19.9	8.9	3.2	8.8
Dzhambul	70.5	22.0	34.8	33.7	17.1	33.9
East Kazakhstan	6.4	--	0.6	--	--	--
Gur'yev	4.5	1.0	--	--	--	--
Karaganda	2.8	--	--	2.8	0.4	--
Kokchetav	4.0	0.5	--	9.8	2.5	--
Kustanay	4.0	0.3	0.1	7.0	1.4	--
Kzyl-Orda	4.2	0.1	--	1.3	0.6	--
North Kazakhstan	1.5	0.1	--	3.6	0.7	--
Pavlodar	2.6	0.2	--	4.9	1.0	--
Semipalatinsk	4.8	0.4	0.9	4.5	1.8	--
South Kazakhstan	47.5	24.7	25.5	36.9	42.8	110.5
Taldy-Kurgan	19.2	3.1	5.6	9.1	2.4	3.4
West Kazakhstan	8.6	1.2	0.3	--	--	--
20 June (24)						
Akmolinsk	10.6	1.2	0.1	9.6	1.5	--
Aktyubinsk	10.6	2.5	1.1	7.2	1.4	0.5
Alma-Ata	36.9	12.7	27.3	11.4	5.4	10.2
Dzhambul	83.4	30.1	43.1	39.6	27.2	13.9
East Kazakhstan	12.0	--	1.6	--	--	--
Gur'yev	7.0	1.4	--	--	--	--
Karaganda	7.3	0.2	--	8.3	1.3	--
Kokchetav	9.8	1.9	0.1	16.6	5.5	--
Kustanay	9.7	0.9	0.1	11.3	2.7	--
Kzyl-Orda	8.2	0.3	--	3.2	0.7	--
North Kazakhstan	4.7	0.4	0.1	8.2	2.4	--
Pavlodar	8.3	0.8	--	10.9	2.0	--
Semipalatinsk	9.7	1.3	1.6	10.3	7.1	--
South Kazakhstan	57.8	33.2	27.3	42.4	57.1	110.5
Taldy-Kurgan	25.9	5.6	11.6	12.9	5.4	3.7
West Kazakhstan	13.4	2.4	0.9	--	--	--

Oblast	Kolkhozes: Area Mowed	Kolkhozes: Hay Harvested	Kolkhozes: Ensilage Stored	Sovkhozes: Area Mowed	Sovkhozes: Hay Harvested	Sovkhozes: Ensilage Stored
			25 June (25)			
Akmolinsk	16.5	2.3	0.4	14.0	3.1	--
Aktyubinsk	16.8	5.4	4.0	10.0	2.2	0.5
Alma-Ata	44.4	16.6	36.7	14.1	7.5	12.1
Dzhambul	94.4	36.6	50.3	46.2	36.4	13.4
East Kazakhstan	18.2	2.4	11.5	--	--	--
Gur'yev	9.7	1.6		--	--	--
Karaganda	9.0	0.7		12.2	3.2	--
Kokchetav	17.0	3.5		22.9	8.6	--
Kustanay	14.8	3.0	0.1	16.4	4.7	--
Kzyl-Orda	12.0	3.8	--	5.7	1.7	--
North Kazakhstan	11.8	1.3	0.5	15.4	4.6	--
Pavlodar	14.9	1.7	--	16.9	3.7	--
Semipalatinsk	15.6	2.6	4.2	11.9	6.0	1.9
South Kazakhstan	69.8	41.0	30.1	52.4	70.0	110.5
Taldy-Kurgan	32.7	8.3	19.9	16.1	8.0	10.6
West Kazakhstan	19.0	3.0	1.6	--	--	--

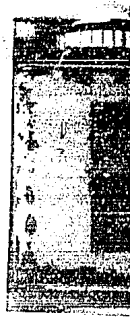
During the 21-25 June period, kolkhozes of the republic again did not meet the tasks set for this period. Mowing was unsatisfactory in Alma-Ata, Karaganda, and Kzyl-Orda oblasts. Considerable numbers of hay harvesting machines were not in operation in these oblasts; as a result, the area mowed during the period was considerably less than during the preceding 5-day period. Harvesting of the first cutting of sown perennial grasses is proceeding very slowly in Taldy-Kurgan, Alma-Ata, and Kzyl-Orda oblasts. In North Kazakhstan, Pavlodar, and East Kazakhstan oblasts, more than half of the hay mowed remains lying on the ground. During the period, almost twice as much ensilage was stored as during the preceding period, but a number of oblasts have not even begun ensilage storage.(25)

Uzbek SSR

The grain harvest has begun in grain kolkhozes of Kashka-Dar'ya Oblast.(26)

The following table shows 1952 pledges given by kolkhozes of the republic in connection with the socialist competition between the agricultural workers of the republic and those of the Turkmen SSR:

Area sown to alfalfa:	75,000-hectare increase
Harvest:	
Rice	165 pud per hectare
Potatoes	140 quintals per hectare
Vegetables	150 " " "
Grapes	65 " " "
Seed and pit fruits	60 " " "
Alfalfa hay	70 " " "
Alfalfa seed	1.5-2.0 " " "
Coarse fodder	3,400,000 tons
Succulent fodder	130,000 "
Ensilage	60,000 "



Livestock birth rate, per 100 females:	70 calves, 95 lambs, 102 kids, 60 colts
Milk Production, per cow	600 kilograms
Wool production, per sheep shorn	2.3 kilograms
Manure and local fertilizer applied to fields and supplementally to crops:	12 million tons (27)

Turkmen SSR

The following table shows 1952 pledges given by kolkhozes of the republic in connection with the socialist competition between the agricultural workers of the republic and those of the Uzbek SSR:

Harvests:	
Alfalfa hay	65-70 quintals per hectare
Alfalfa seed	2 " " "
Conversion to the new irrigation system:	170,000 hectares (27)

Kirgiz SSR

In 1951, areas sown to industrial and fodder crops (cotton, sugar beets, hemp, gambo hemp, tobacco, opium poppy, and volatile oil plants) increased considerably over 1950. Areas sown to industrial crops were 32.2 percent greater than in 1945 and 22.8 percent greater than in 1940.(28)

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the plan for fodder procurement in kolkhozes of the republic, as of 25 June (2):

Oblast	Natural Grass Area Mowed	Alfalfa Area Mowed (first cutting)	Ensilage Stored
Dzhalal-Abad	38.4	64.4	50.7
Frunze	41.6	74.6	27.3
Issyk-Kul'	--	1.1	4.5
Osh	24.0	63.8	40.5
Talas	28.4	58.9	25.2
Tyan'-Shan'	--	--	--

Light "PO-2" airplanes are used in many areas of the republic for spraying and dusting purposes. When apple moths were discovered in the Chu Valley recently, two planes sprayed 400 hectares in 4 days; spraying the same area during the same period of time manually would have required the work of 800 men. Planes are also being used for spraying sugar beets to destroy a parasitic fungus (Erysiphe graminis) and for artificial removal of leaves from cotton for mechanized harvesting.(29)

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